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The high cost of deer hunting

By MELODY SHARP STAFF WRITER

The time is here again for all those macho men hunters to take "Deer Season." Exactly how many does that mean? According to The National Rifle Assocation million in Michigan.

Now if that isn't a scary

thought, think about this. How much possible hunting land can be available in our state?

The estimated total land mass is 57,000 square miles, minus lakes and rivers. Then an allotment has to be made for city fimits. (We all know it's illegal to discharge a firearm in the city fimits no matter how big the rack might be.) So this may leave 50 to a 100 hunters to a square mile.

Next, consider what kind of

firearm these mighty hunters will be toting. The average rifle is a .30-.30 with a travel range of a few hundred yards, or the power to kill an elephant at 50 paces.

So one does not dare blow nose with a white hankie or be in the vacinity hanging up clothes. As a mother of two boys, I don't even let them go out of the house for 15 days. Considering the state that some of these hunters will be in on opening morning,

Let's consider the hunter's state of affairs. First, there is the proverbial hunting camp. This camp is stocked with enough food and ammunition to hold off a small army for months

Alcohol is purchased by

the gallons, along with mixers to dilute it, and food is of top qual-ity, consisting of steaks to standing rib roast. Men who could mess up a bologna sandmagically turn into

gourmet cooks.

Necessities consist of elec tricity, running water, televisions and sometimes a cook.

The night before the big

hunt, the camps are lively with anticipation of getting that first The cards come out, wagers are placed and drinks are poured. By the end of the night, drinks are usually straight, money is lost and boasts are becoming more exuberant

About 3 a.m. hunters start to dress in their neon orange, load rifles and stagger to the deer blind. The blinds are complete with heaters, chairs, gun props and an extra fifth to keep hunters

Outside the blind sits a ton of feed put there to lure the deer into range. The pile is usually placed on a well traveled trail so the deer either trip over it or goes out of its way to avoid it because

of the human scent left behind.

The time comes; that awaited moment happens; out steps a fourteen point buck weighing in at 160 lbs. What happens next is pretty amazing. The hunter inside the blind is either sleeping off a hang over or has been at-tacked by the seasonal disease called buck fever.

His hands have become sweaty and shaky, on his fore-home 6 head are beads of sweat, he freezer

or shot at the deer missing by a mile, and all that is to be seen of the deer is the white tail waving in

The hunter now has to con-struct a story to tell back at camp about the one that got away be-cause everyone within a country mile has heard the shot

What does this 15 day trip in the woods cost the average hunter? Here is an estimated to-tal: deer license, \$12.85; rifle and ammo, \$300; food, \$200; alcohol and mixers, \$150; hunting clothes, \$150; deer feed, have two weeks vacation speni for an average cost of \$1000. And what is the return? An

average deer weighing 150 pounds, when processed minus bones, is about 60 pounds of edible meat. That means this venison cost around \$16 per pound. That sounds like a reasonable investment to me. Not!

What does the wife get out of this? She gets to wash the dirty clothes and pack up the supplies and store them for next

I think the women should get equal treatment. How about an equal amount of money and the same time away from husband and kids to do what she pleases

. . . just as long as she brings home 60 pounds of meat for the sweaty and shaky, on his fore-home 60 pounds of meat for the freezer.



Kristen Darga, one of the backstage crew, puts the finishing touches on a set piece for "Sound of Music."

Photo by Linda Simpson

Front and center behind stage

By SARAH EDWARDS STAFF WRITER

Finding order in mass confusion has always seemed to be an impossible feat, but before opening night I had to find a

. . . and hold on to it.

Presented with the oppo tunity to be in charge of seven children, numerous adults and singing nuns, all I had to do was singing nuns, and had to do was keep stairs cleared, props handy, and a stage changed quickly. Most importantly, all this had to be done with a sub-zero noise

For this musical to happen it re-quired endless hours, extreme quired endless hours, extreme patience, respect for the stage directors, and a desire to make the audience leave with a posi-

Never doing any work with a theater, I was left confused with the entire concept. At the end of one night I was begin-ning to feel overwhelmed. After many hours of one-on-one with the stage designer, directors, and the few people I had to help me

out, I began to wonder the worst.

After all, what's the worst that can happen? The set could fall, curtains could be wrong, rail, currains could be wrong, actors could get tempermental to-wards you, an audience could possibly hate the musical. After realizing the worst I decided I was going to do my best and accept nothing less.

I soon began to wonder why I had decided to do this. I have written theater reviews for The Polemic since January of this year and was becoming bored

On a push and prod from various friends I decided to take

the backstage to be very satisfy-ing. I realized that you don't have to be center stage to fee important because you are told by the cast and crew how important you are

The simple fact is not many people realize that there are no little jobs in theater. Everyone works together toward one goal, and you can make friends of all ages and walks of life.

And if you're a reader who is complaining about nothing to do, then you haven't looked far enough. Alpena Civic Theater is always seeking adults to help gather unusual props, hang light units and man the box office to name a few. There are many tasks that may only take a couple hours. The community is there, are you?

Students speak:

In light of the fact that attendance at college sponsored activities has been so low, what could the college do to encourage you to attend?

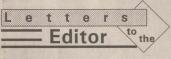


Ron Thompson ~ More advertising and they need to set up some type of program to help parents who need help with baby-sitting. Also, have dances ake it fun for everyone

Traci St. Charles ~ I feel they should have more advertising such as radio and television



Joe Bason - More adver tising to tell the people who do not know what is going on.



staffer Responses amuse

Plante Plante Dante Dante Plante Plante Dante Dante Plante

Letter to the Editor of The

I was rather amused when I was ratner amused when I read the student responses to the question, "What activities would you like to see on cam-pus?" Obviously, the students must be new to the campus be-cause four of the five "requests" have already been acknowl-

Scott: In an attempt to derstand black culture, Student Senate hosted an event this fall at Thunder Bay Theatre in which an Afro-American shared the life story of Malcolm X. Only one

ACC student

Charlie:If you want a fun activity for both students and their parents, Student Senate sponsors two events — a Hal-loween party and a Family Day. If you missed the Halloween party, mark your calendar for Earnily Day on Nov. 12

Family Day on Nov. 13. Some about coching on some new ter-dent Senate sponsors a "Spring futry that hasn't been discovered Fling" just before final exams. yet It is a big outdoor picnic and Karen Eller,

they usually play volleyball.

John: Check the daily

Afro-American person attended news flyer on campus, "The the show and she was not an Splinter." Coed intramural volleyball rosters are due Nov.10.
Connie: A foreign language

club sounds great, but first we need some foreign language classes here at ACC. Help cam-paign for students who want the

Karen Eller, ACC Administrative

